

ANNUAL REPORT

OF THE

HEALTH

OF THE

CWMBRAN URBAN DISTRICT

FOR THE YEAR 1948

BY

EVELYN D. OWEN,

M.B., B.S., D.P.H.,

MEDICAL OFFICER OF HEALTH

INCLUDING

SANITARY INSPECTOR'S
REPORT

E. Chas. Price & Sons, Ltd., Cwmbran.



The Urban District Council of Cwmbran

ANNUAL REPORT OF THE MEDICAL OFFICER OF HEALTH

For the Year Ending December 31st, 1948.

*To the Chairman and Members of the
Urban District Council of Cwmbran.*

Ladies and Gentlemen,

I beg to submit the Annual Report for 1948 of the Medical Officer of Health for your District. It is drawn up according to the directions of the Ministry of Health from information left by my predecessor as I did not become your Medical Officer until 1st January, 1949.

STATISTICS AND SOCIAL CONDITIONS.

Area (in acres)	5,850
Registrar-General's estimate of resident population mid-1948	12,660
Number of Inhabited Houses (end of 1948) according to the Rate Books	3,264
Rateable Value 1/4/48	£41,706
Sum represented by penny rate	£170

SOCIAL CONDITIONS.

The inhabitants of the district are mainly engaged in local industries, comprising chiefly Iron and Steel, Engineering, Motor Car Components, Tin-Plate, Brick and Biscuit Manufacture.

VITAL STATISTICS.

	Total	Male	Female
<i>Live Births</i> —Legitimate	251	127	124
Illegitimate	7	3	4
Birth Rate per 1,000 of the Estimated Resident Population ... ..	...	...	20.4
Birth Rate of England and Wales 1948			17.9
	Total	Male	Female
<i>Still Births</i>	8	5	3
Rate per 1,000 of Estimated Population			0.6
	Total	Male	Female
<i>Deaths</i>	120	63	57
Death Rate per 1,000 of the Estimated Resident Population ... ..	...	...	9.5
ditto 1947 ... ..	...	...	10.5
Death Rate for England and Wales 1948			10.8

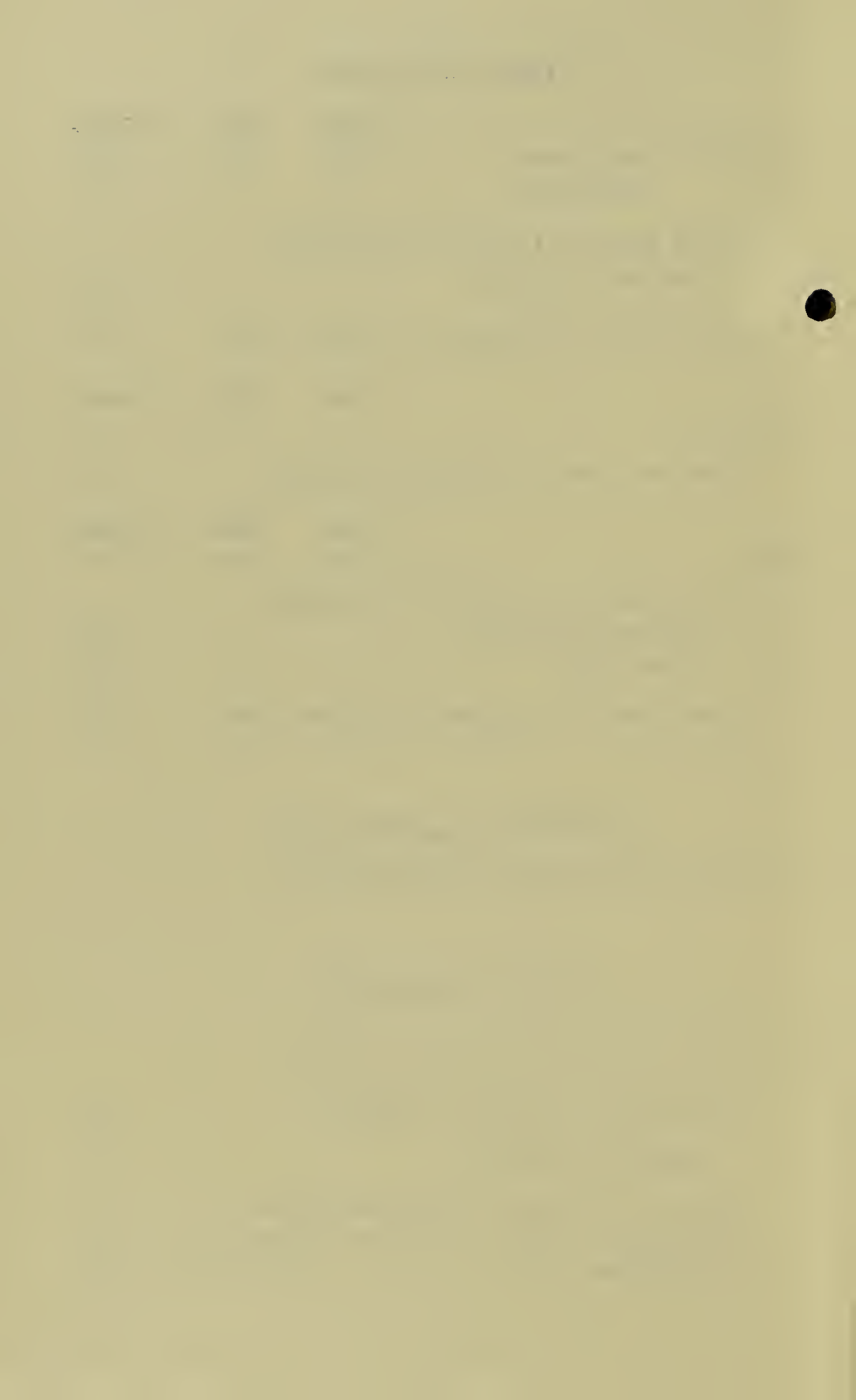
MATERNAL MORTALITY.

There were no deaths from Puerperal Causes.

INFANT MORTALITY.

Five Infants died under the Age of one year.

Death Rate of Infants under one year of age—			
All Infants per 1,000 Live Births ... ..	...	...	19.4
England and Wales ... ..	...	...	34
Legitimate Infants per 1,000 Live Births ...	...		15.5
Illegitimate Infants per 1,000 Illegitimate Live Births ... ..	...	...	142.8



DEATHS FROM ALL CAUSES.

Cancer	...	...	...	...	...	...	16
Diarrhœa (under 2 years)	...	...	...	...	...	...	2
Diphtheria	...	...	...	...	...	...	1
Diabetes	...	...	...	...	...	...	1
Tuberculosis of Respiratory System	...	...	...	...	...	...	1
Syphilitic Disease	...	...	...	...	...	...	1
Premature Birth	...	...	...	...	...	...	1
Birth Injury and Congenital Malformation	...	...	...	...	...	...	4
Intracranial Vascular Lesions	...	...	...	...	...	...	12
Heart Disease	...	...	...	...	...	...	28
Other Disease of Circulatory System	...	...	...	...	...	...	4
Bronchitis	...	...	...	...	...	...	9
Pneumonia	...	...	...	...	...	...	6
Other Respiratory Diseases	...	...	...	...	...	...	4
Ulcer of Stomach or Duodenum	...	...	...	...	...	...	2
Appendicitis	...	...	...	...	...	...	1
Other Digestive Diseases	...	...	...	...	...	...	3
Nephritis	...	...	...	...	...	...	2
Road Traffic Accident	...	...	...	...	...	...	1
Other Violent Causes	...	...	...	...	...	...	5
All Other Causes	...	...	...	...	...	...	16

There was no unusual or excessive mortality.

The incidence of sickness was fairly normal during the year.

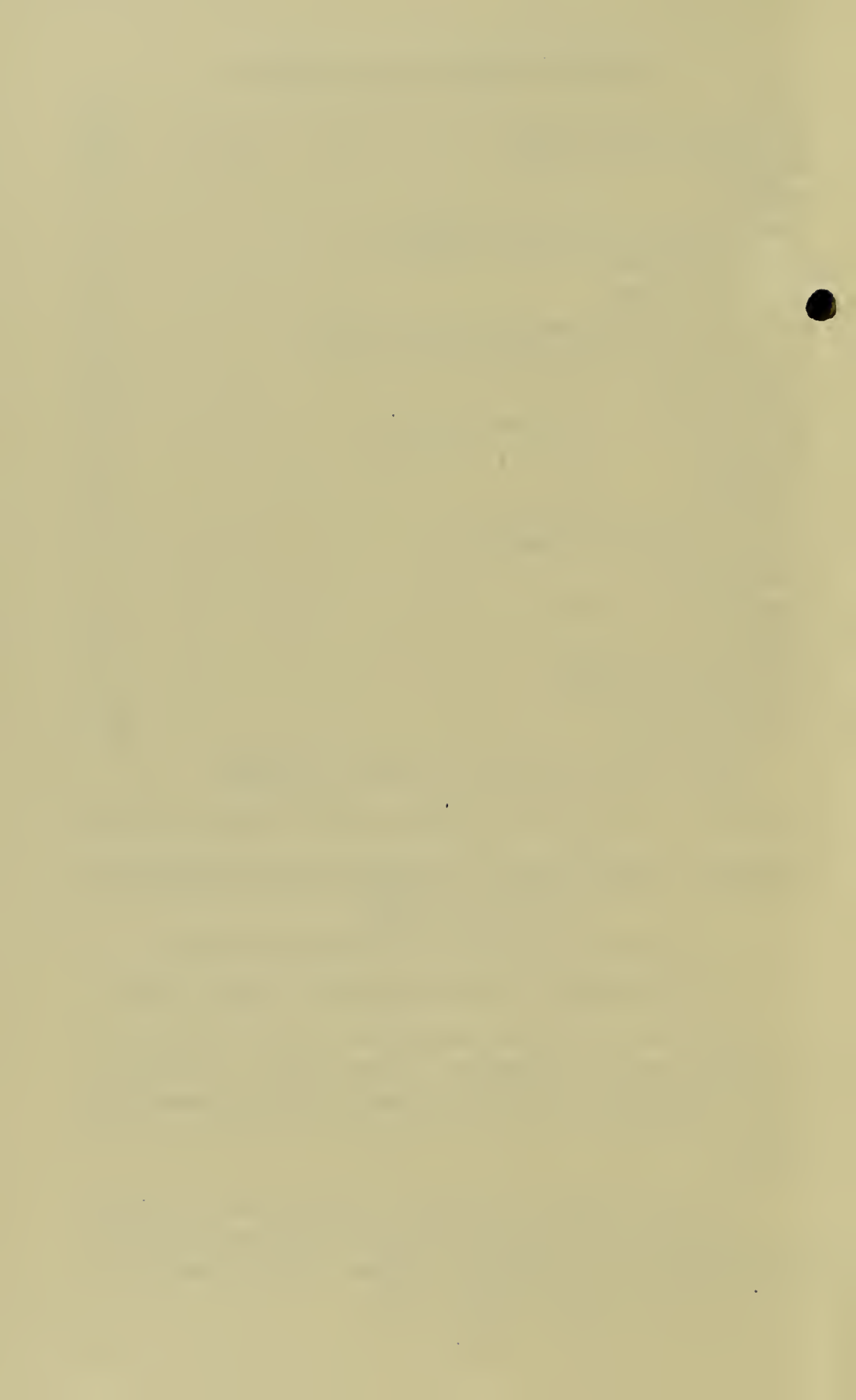
GENERAL PROVISIONS OF THE HEALTH SERVICES FOR THE AREA.

1. *Public Health Officers.* The Staff consisted of :—

(a) The Medical Officer of Health (a part-time office).

The duties comprised presentation of monthly reports to the Public Health Committee of the Council, furnishing various periodical reports to the County Medical Officer and Ministry of Health, and advising on matters of Public Health generally.

(b) The Sanitary Inspector, who also carries out the duties of Housing Inspector and Inspector of Foods. He holds the Certificate of the Sanitary Institute and his duties are laid down in the Sanitary Order, 1926.



2. *Laboratory Facilities*—Clinical material was examined and water, milk and foodstuffs analysed at the County Laboratory, Newport. Full advantage was taken of this facility. On the 5th July, when the National Health Service Act came into force, the administration of this laboratory was transferred to the Medical Research Council.

3. *Home Nursing*—The Nursing Association, which was affiliated with Mon. Nursing Association, ceased to function on July 5th, when the County Council became responsible for the nursing services. Excellent nursing service was rendered by two capable and efficient Nurses.

4. *Ambulance Service*—On July 5th the administration of the Ambulance Service became the function of the County Council, so the ambulance belonging to the district became one of the County Council fleet of vehicles.

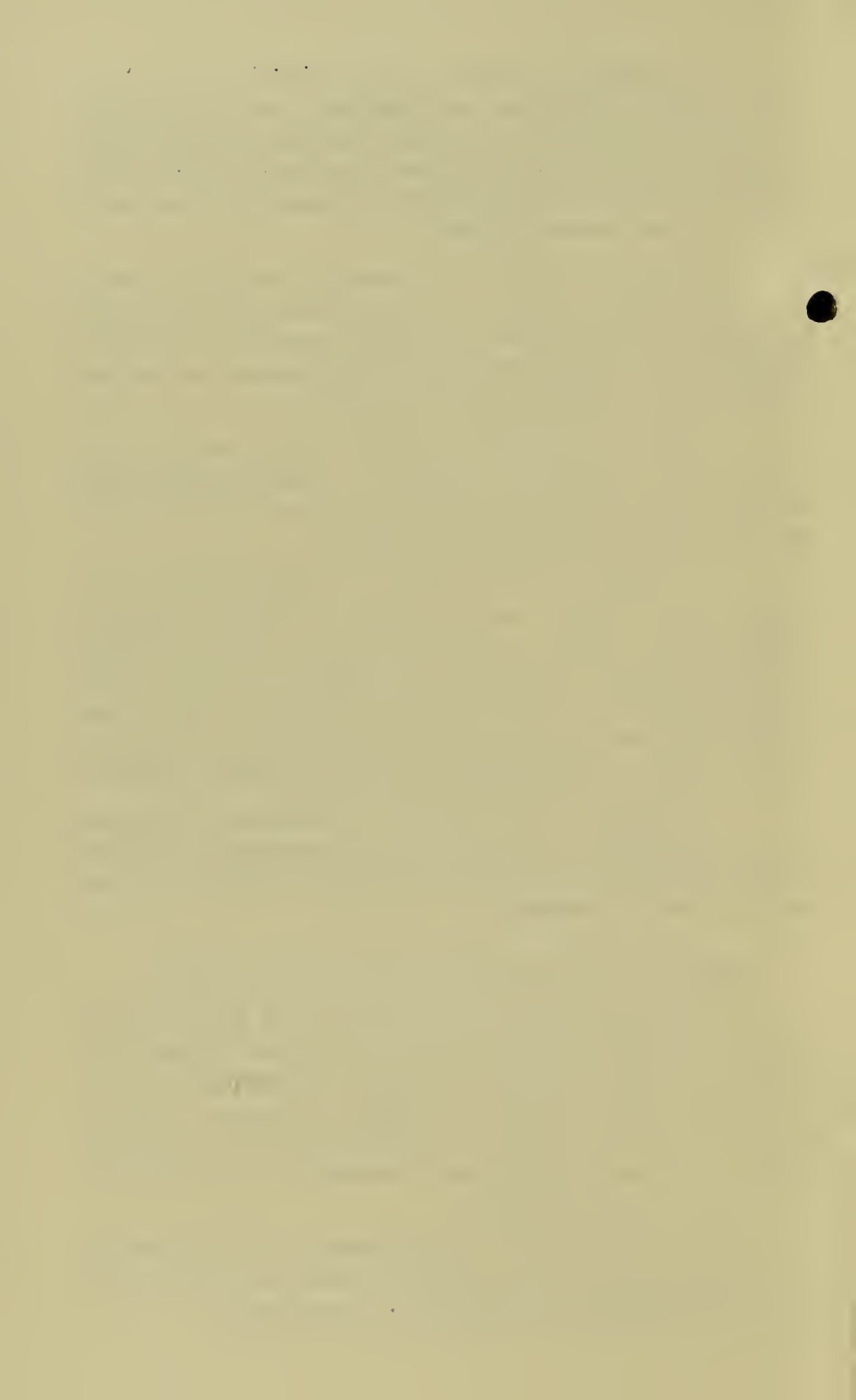
5. *Treatment and Clinic Centres*—Two Maternity and Child Welfare Clinics and one Ante-Natal Clinic are held weekly in the district. School Clinics are held in Newport, where treatment is provided for children suffering from enlarged tonsils, defective eyesight, defective teeth, orthopaedic conditions, etc. These are all under the control of the County Council. The Tuberculosis Clinic is held in Newport.

6. *Hospitals*—The district is well catered for by three General Hospitals just outside its boundaries. Cases of infectious diseases are admitted to Isolation Hospitals in the County whenever necessary.

SANITARY CIRCUMSTANCES OF THE AREA.

(i) The water supply is from your own Reservoir and augmented by bulk supplies from the Newport Corporation. Both are chemically treated, filtered and chlorinated before distribution. The degree of hardness Cwmbran Water, Clarke's Scale is, Permanent 5.50, Temporary 7.0. A recent Analysis of a sample stated that chemically and bacteriologically the water was satisfactory.

There are still a few isolated houses in the area which derive their water supply from wells. Samples are periodically taken and subjected to bacteriological examination.



Provisional sanction has been given by the Welsh Board of Health for the provision of Additional Water Supplies consisting of new mains, service reservoir, pumping and additional chemical treatment plant, to implement supplies during periods of drought.

The water supply for the year was generally adequate.

(ii) *Drainage and Sewerage.* The question of completing the sewerage of the whole area is proceeding and the Upper Cwmbran—Pontnewydd Sewer has been laid.

(iii) *Rivers and Streams.* The district is now being provided with an efficient sewerage system. The rivers and streams are becoming free from gross pollution.

(iv) The Council carry out the disposal of refuse by means of covered freighter vehicles and the disposal is as before, viz., tipping in waste areas.

PROCEEDINGS UNDER PUBLIC HEALTH ACT 1936.

The number of Informal Notices served was 110.

Statutory Notices, 41.

Informal Notices complied with, 83.

Statutory Notices complied with, 31.

SWIMMING BATHS OR POOLS.

There are no publicly or privately owned swimming baths or pools in your area.

SCHOOLS.

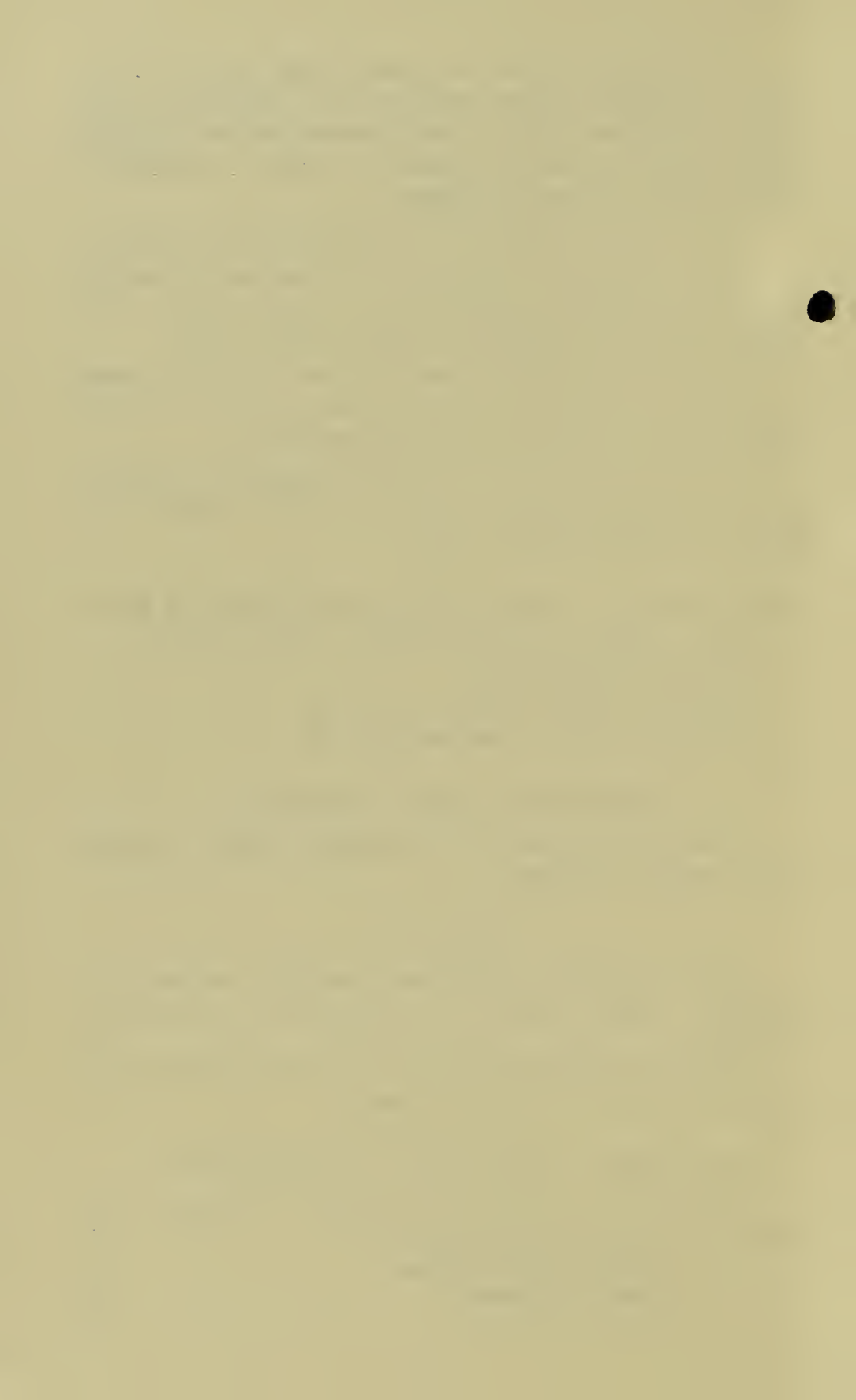
The water supply and sanitary conditions of the public elementary schools situated in your district are generally satisfactory.

It was not found necessary to close the schools during the year on account of infectious diseases.

FACTORIES, WORKSHOPS & BAKEHOUSES.

Inspections of Registered Factories, Workshops and Bakehouses were made during the year.

Sanitary defects found	...	...	...	11
Defects remedied	...	...	...	11



Informal Notices Served	3
Want of Cleanliness	4
Defective Closet Accommodation ...	7
In each case Informal Notices were complied with.	
No Statutory Action was found necessary.	

REMEDY OF DEFECTS WITHOUT SERVICE OF FORMAL NOTICE

Number of defective dwelling houses rendered fit in consequence of informal action by the Local Authority or their Officers	120
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ACTION UNDER STATUTORY POWERS.

A—Proceedings under Sections 9, 10 and 16 of the Housing Act, 1936:—

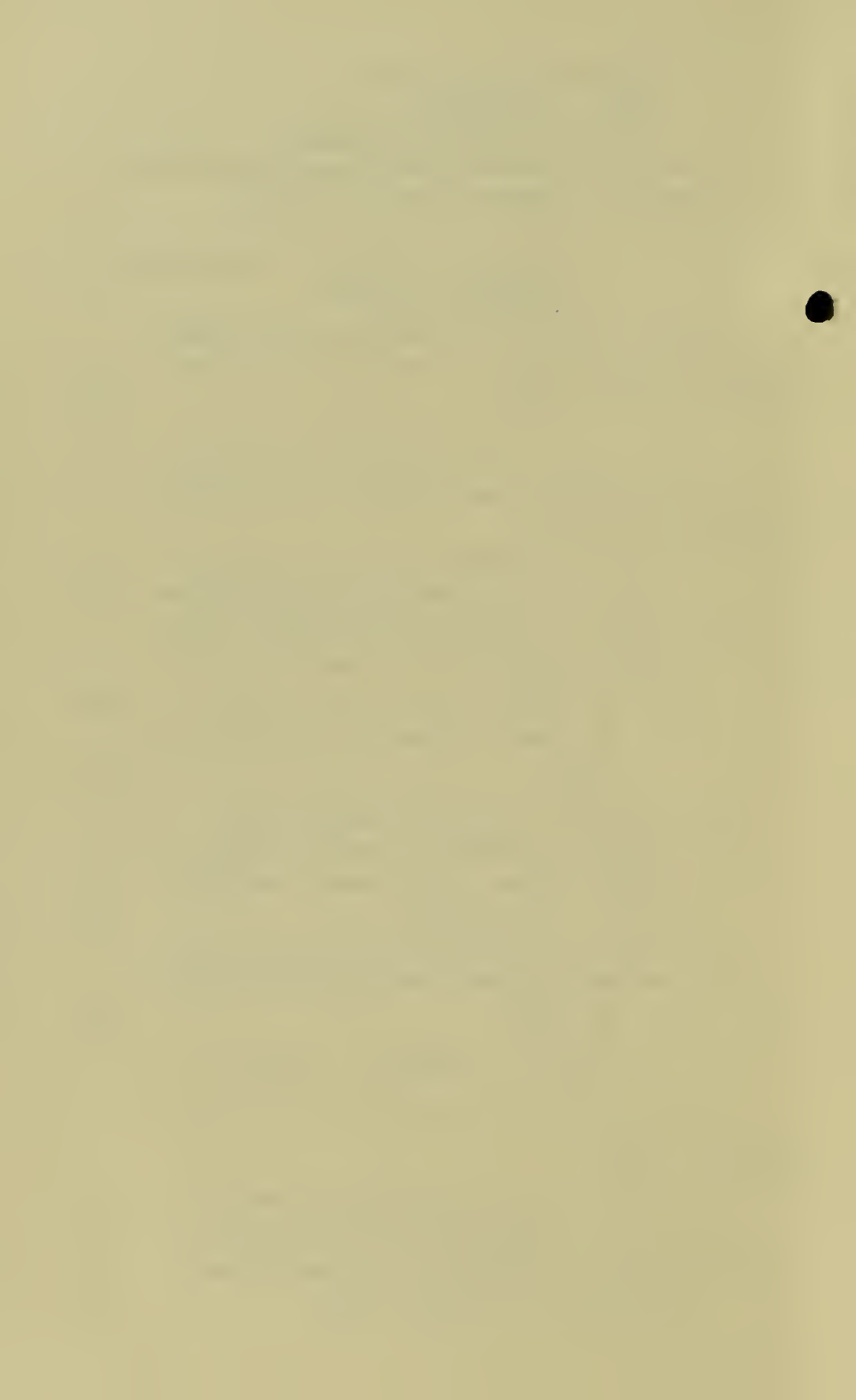
(i) Number of dwelling houses in respect of which Notices were served requiring repairs	78
(ii) Number of dwelling houses which were rendered fit after service of formal notices—	
(a) By owners	64
(b) By Local Authority in default of Owners	9

B—Proceedings under Public Health Acts:—

(i) Number of dwelling houses in respect of which Notices were served requiring defects to be remedied	56
(ii) Number of dwelling houses in which defects were remedied after service of formal notice	
(a) By owners	41
(b) By Local Authority in default of owners	—

C—Proceedings under Sections 11 and 13 of the Housing Act, 1936:—

(i) Number of dwelling houses in respect of which demolition orders were made ...	—
(ii) Number of dwelling houses demolished in pursuance of demolition orders	—



D—Proceedings under Sections 12 of the Housing Act, 1936:—

- (i) Number of separate tenements or underground rooms in respect of which closing orders were made —
- (ii) Number of separate tenements or underground rooms in respect of which closing orders were determined, the tenement or room having been rendered fit —

INSPECTION AND SUPERVISION OF FOOD.

(a) *Milk Supply*—Inspections of cowsheds and dairies in the district were carried out in accordance with the Milk and Dairies Order, 1926, and the Milk (Special Designation) Order, 1923 and 1936.

(b) Chemical and Bacteriological examinations of Food—Laboratories of the County Council carry out this work.

UNSOUND FOODSTUFFS.

All foodshops have been periodically inspected during the year.

The following unsound foodstuffs have been surrendered and destroyed:—

Tins of Milk	...	...	...	...	111
Tins of Meat	...	...	...	...	23
Tins of Fish	...	...	...	...	48
Meat (lbs) ...	...	...	...	...	160

PREVALENCE OF AND CONTROL OVER INFECTIOUS AND OTHER DISEASES

Diphtheria—One case occurred during the year, which proved fatal.

94 children completed the immunisation course, all but two being under five years of age.

Measles and Whooping Cough—30 and 76 cases respectively were notified. All were treated at home as were the Scarlet Fever cases which were all of a mild type.

Acute Poliomyelitis—No case occurred during the year.

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NOTIFIABLE DISEASES (OTHER THAN TUBERCULOSIS) DURING THE YEAR 1948

DISEASE				Total Cases Notified	Cases Admitted into Hospital	Total Deaths
Small Pox	—	—	—	—	—	—
Scarlet Fever	—	—	—	37	—	—
Diphtheria	—	—	—	1	—	1
Enteric Fever (including Paratyphoid)	—	—	—	—	—	—
Puerperal Pyrexia	—	—	—	—	—	—
Pneumonia	—	—	—	29	1	5
Erysipelas	—	—	—	—	—	—

AGE GROUP ANALYSIS

	Under 1 year	1	2	3	4	5/10	10/15	15/20	20/35	35/45	45/60	Over 60
1. Scarlet Fever	—	—	5	4	1	10	16	—	—	1	—	—
2. Diphtheria	—	—	—	—	1	—	—	—	—	—	—	—
3. Pneumonia	4	—	2	2	—	2	—	1	4	2	5	7
4. Erysipelas	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—

TUBERCULOSIS

New Cases and Mortality during 1948

Age Periods	New Cases				Deaths			
	Male	Female	Non- Respiratory		Male	Female	Non- Respiratory	
			Male	Female			Male	Female
0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0
1	0	0	1	0	0	0	0	0
5	0	1	0	0	0	0	0	0
10	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0
15	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0
20	2	0	0	1	0	0	0	0
25	2	5	0	0	0	0	0	0
35	1	1	0	0	1	0	0	0
45	1	1	0	0	0	0	0	0
55	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0
65 and upwards	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0
TOTALS	6	8	1	1	1	0	0	0

I am, Ladies and Gentlemen,

Your Obedient Servant,

EVELYN D. OWEN.

